

International Hydrographic Review, Monaco, LXVII(2), July 1990

OBITUARY

REAR ADMIRAL F.L. FRASER

**INDIAN NAVY
(1925-1990)**

Rear Admiral Francis Leslie Fraser died of cardiac arrest in Delhi, India, on 1st April 1990 after a brief illness.

Frank Fraser had considerable experience in the Indian Navy before he became a Hydrographic Surveyor in 1949. On promotion to Sub-Lieutenant (War Services) and on completion of Sub-Lieutenant Courses in 1945, he was appointed to HMIS BOMBAY. On promotion to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant in 1949, he became a Hydrographic Surveyor and was appointed to IN Surveying Ship ROHILKHAND as a Hydrographic Surveying Officer (4th class).

As a Lieutenant, he was appointed to IN Surveying Ship INVESTIGATOR in 1950 as a Hydrographic Surveyor (3rd class) and thereafter, in 1952, he underwent Hydrographic Surveying Training at the Hydrographic School in the UK and was on attachment with the Royal Naval Surveying Ship FRANKLIN from May 1952 to November 1952.

On advancement to Hydrographic Surveying Officer (2nd class), he was appointed to IN Surveying Ship SUTLEJ in 1953 and to IN Survey Ship INVESTIGATOR in 1954. He was then appointed as naval assistant to the Chief Hydrographer in 1955.

He served as the Executive Officer IN Surveying Ship JAMUNA as a Hydrographic Surveying Officer (1st class) from 1956 to 1958 and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander in the same year and appointed as the Executive Officer of INS RANJIT, a Destroyer.

On graduation from the Indian Defence Services Staff College Wellington, India, in 1960, he was advanced to a Charge Surveyor and appointed to IN Surveying Ship INVESTIGATOR as the Commanding Officer for his first Command.

He was promoted to the rank of Commander in 1963 and appointed as Deputy Hydrographer, at the Naval Hydrographic Office, Dehra Dun in 1965 and subsequently as the Commanding Officer of IN Surveying Ship SUTLEJ in

1967 and Commanding Officer of IN Surveying Ship DARSHAK in 1968. On promotion to the rank of Captain in 1969, he was reappointed as the Commanding Officer of IN Surveying Ship DARSHAK.



In January 1972, he was awarded AVSM (Ati Vishisht Seva Medal) for his relentless and distinguished meritorious Service. In the same year, he was appointed as the Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India.

From 1972, he led the Indian Delegation, as the Chief Technical Advisor, in the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and in Maritime Boundaries negotiations with neighbouring countries of India.

He represented the Government of India in the International Hydrographic Organization and was the Chairman of the work of the Bureau Committee in 1977. He was also, in 1977, the Chairman of the United Nations Group of Experts on Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting. In the same year, he was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral.

His active participation in various United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asian and Pacific regions resulted in his obtaining United Nations Development Programme assistance of US \$3.466 million to provide most modern training facilities for the Hydrographic School at Goa, India.

He represented India on numerous national and international Committees and Organizations in the capacity of Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India.

In January 1982, he was decorated with 'PADM SHRI', one of the most prestigious national awards for his distinguished Service to the Nation.

Rear Admiral Frank Fraser was elected as the President of the Directing Committee of the International Hydrographic Bureau at the XIIth International Hydrographic Conference held at Monte-Carlo in April 1982. He assumed the Office of the President of the Directing Committee of the International Hydrographic Bureau at Monte-Carlo on 1 September 1982 for a period of 5 years till 1987.

During their five years in Monaco, Frank and his wife Margaret lived in their apartment in Monte-Carlo and many Hydrographers who visited the Principality in those years will recall their warm hospitality at home.

Frank Fraser had been the Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India for almost a decade and was a highly competent and devoted international civil servant. His contribution and expertise in the field of Hydrography and Cartography had won him many laurels in his native land and the world over.

V.K.S

CALL FOR ARTICLES JULY 1991

The July 1991 issue is to concentrate on articles dealing with **HYDROGRAPHIC TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**. Authors are encouraged to submit articles under these subject headings prior to 1 February 1991.

Editor

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMODORE TONY COOPER MEDALS

The medals for the above award for the years 1988 and 1989 were presented during the U.S. HYDRO'90 Conference in Norfolk, USA.

The 1988 medals were awarded to:

Lt. Daniel R. Herlihy (NOAA), Stephen P. Matula and Captain Christian Andreasen (NOAA), (USA) for their paper:

SWATH MAPPING DATA MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

The 1989 medal was awarded to:

T.V. Evangelatos (Canada) for his paper:

THE TECHNOLOGY OF INTERACTIVE COMPILATION